

CHURCH RECORD.

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."—*St. Mark, xvi. 15.*
"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the Everlasting Gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people."—*Rev. xiv. 6.*

CONDUCTED BY

THE REV. MESSRS. KEMPER, BOYD, MONTGOMERY, ALLEN,
BEDELL, DU PUY, AND DE LANCEY.

Vol. I.

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No. 1.

PROSPECTUS.

Deeply impressed with a sense of the obligation of the duty enjoined in the first part of their motto, and encouraged by the prophetic vision of its fulfilment in the latter, the Editors, in offering the above work to their brethren of the Church, are actuated by an ardent solicitude that it may become instrumental to the excitement of a missionary spirit, and of a practical sympathy in those mighty endeavours for the diffusion of gospel light, which so pre-eminently distinguish the present age, and with which, if we duly appreciate our peculiar privileges and responsibility as *Churchmen*, we cannot fail to co-operate. With this view, they have thought that no means could so effectually conduce to the desired end, as the circulation of well authenticated and interesting accounts of the progress of missionary labours, and of the triumphs of Christianity in heathen lands. It will therefore be their chief business, at least for a considerable time to come, to extract such accounts from the various missionary publications both at home and abroad, and to condense, in as attractive and popular a form as they can, the interesting intelligence they may furnish.

As the present undertaking is designed to be subservient to the promotion of the views of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Church, the proceedings of that society—all its publications—and whatever, in regard to it, it may be thought expedient to make known, will always have a prominent place in the "Record;" which will thus, it is hoped, prove an efficient auxiliary to the society.

Besides the contents of a missionary character, it will be a favourite object with the Editors, to circulate ecclesiastical intelligence of a domestic nature. Whatever of an interesting description takes place in the General or State Conventions, or in any part of the Church, shall be immediately signalized in our pages. For this purpose, the form of our work—that of a weekly publication—while it will have a tendency to keep alive an interest in the general design, is particularly convenient.

Nor is it intended to confine the work to the preceding objects. Short essays of a practical nature, especially those enforcing the duty, or illustrating the benefits of aiding the missionary cause, do-

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mestic or foreign, will always be gladly welcomed, and are accordingly most respectfully invited.

With these views and objects, the Editors commit their undertaking to the Great Head of the Church, with the prayer that he will favourably dispose the hearts of the members of his mystical body, to co-operate herein, and thus to manifest their love and allegiance to him, whose blessed will and peremptory command it is, that his "gospel should be preached to every creature."

The Editors know not how to occupy their first number more profitably or more agreeably than by the publication of the Proceedings of the Board of Directors of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, at its late annual meeting; which proceedings, while they afford a pledge of the interest taken by the Board in the important objects of the Society, will it is hoped, prove a powerful and efficient call upon the devoted co-operation of their brother Episcopalians.

The 6th article of the system of by-laws adopted by the Board provides—"that there shall be appointed annually by the Board of Directors, by ballot, a committee of eight persons; of whom the president of the society and the corresponding secretary shall each be *ex officio* one; to be denominated 'The Executive Committee,' whose duty it shall be to recommend to the Board, proper stations, and places for their attention; to recommend suitable characters to be employed as missionaries; to diffuse intelligence for the purpose of exciting an interest in favour of the society; and generally to execute the resolutions of the Board in relation to missions and missionaries. They shall keep minutes of their transactions, and lay the same before the Board at every meeting."

In pursuance of the provisions of the above article, the following persons were elected as the "Executive Committee:" Rev. Messrs. Kemper, Allen and Montgomery, Messrs. Dale, Wheeler and Claxton—the president of the society, the Right Rev. Bishop of the Diocese, being *ex officio* president of the committee, and the Rev. George Boyd, corresponding secretary, *ex officio* a member: and at a meeting of the Executive Committee, June 1, 1822, the following resolution was adopted:

"That the minutes of the proceedings of the late annual meeting of the Board of Directors, be referred to a committee of two, with the view of publishing such parts thereof as they may deem expedient. And that they be authorized to suggest any thing, that may tend to promote the designs of the society."

Whereupon the Rev. Messrs. Allen and Montgomery were appointed.

In discharge of the duty thus devolved upon them, the above named committee proceed to present to their brethren of the Church such parts of the proceedings of the Board of Directors at its late annual meeting, as are of a general interest; and of which the publication will, it is hoped, prove gratifying to all who may be disposed to co-operate in the important designs of the society.

Previously to the annual meeting of the Board, a committee had been appointed "to ascertain the most important stations, to which our attention can be directed for missionary purposes, and make report at the annual meeting, for the consideration of the Board; and likewise to inquire for missionaries, and report the names of those they may deem fit for the office." The Rev. Mr. Kemper, as chairman of that committee, reported that letters of inquiry had been sent to such persons as it was thought could furnish useful information on the points embraced in the above resolution, and that answers had been received to most of them. These letters were read to the Board: and it is thought expedient to publish the following extracts from several of them.

Extract from a Letter of the Right Rev. Bishop Chase, of Ohio.

"In answer to your second question, I would beg leave to remark, that I am acquainted with none of the aboriginal tribes but that of the Wyandots: and of them I have great hopes. A youth from that nation (about twenty-one) is now receiving his education at my house, and bids fair to become the medium of much good to his people. Could he be assured of a small stipend, to enable him to devote his attention, first to school-keeping and then to the work of catechising the youth of his tribe, I have hopes he would accept an appointment to that effect. But our funds, I fear, will be too limited, unless aided by the general society.

"Your third question, I am grieved to say, I must answer in the negative. We must look to the East for missionaries—our own being too few, alas! too few for our own wants. If any aid could be afforded them in their indigent and arduous work, I should rejoice and bless the Lord."

The Bishop concludes with the following judicious remark, "that if the poor congregations, formed throughout this state (Ohio), be suffered to expire for want of the word and sacraments, and thus the harvest which is ripe be permitted to fall into the earth, there are poor hopes and small encouragement to sow and plant new fields elsewhere."

Extract from a Letter of the Rev. Joseph Doddridge.

"With the exception of the western part of Pennsylvania,

and some parts of the state of Ohio, the states and territories of the immense regions of the valley of the Mississippi have been settled mainly by emigrations from those states, in which before the revolution, the Church of England had a legal establishment. These people and their descendants still retain most of the distinctive features of the character of their forefathers.

"A comparison of the statistical accounts of the number of the Methodists and Baptists in the states and territories in question, with the late census of the United States, will serve to show, that these societies, although numerous, comprehend but a small portion of the whole population of the country.

"What then is the condition of the remaining part of our people, with regard to religion? They are not associated with any community whatever.

"In all my little missionary excursions in the state of Ohio, and the western part of Virginia, I have found the state of things every where the same. In every place there exists the skeleton of an Episcopalian congregation; that is to say, a considerable number of people of Episcopalian descent, who have not associated themselves with any other religious community: and these people are, for the most part, the most wealthy and the most intelligent part of the population of our country.

"With exceptions of but small extent, the whole of the extensive regions of the West are before the Episcopalian missionary, as a wide field for his labours. The difficulties attendant on making proselytes to a new faith, will not fall to his lot. On the part of large and very respectable portions of the population of the country, he will meet with a strong predilection in his favour; and from none will he meet with open and direct hostility. The steady and rapid progress of our Church of late years, and which, from the very judicious means employed, promises to be permanent, has made a strong and favourable excitement, even where the voice of her ministry has not as yet been heard.

"As to ministers, or candidates for the missionary service, alas! my brother, there are none here: the number of our clergymen is but small, and they are all fully occupied in their respective stations."

*Extracts from a letter of the Rev. C. Hanckel, Charleston, S. C.
April 19, 1822.*

"In the state of Alabama there are many Episcopalians, who have emigrated there from the southern states. I believe there is no Episcopal clergyman amongst them, and I am satisfied that no section of the United States presents a more interesting scene for missionary labours, both as it regards their prospect of success, and the necessities of the people.

"The Rev. Mr. Fowler has lately been employed by the

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Young Men's Missionary Society of this city, as a missionary to St. Augustine."

Extracts from a Letter of Rev. G. T. Chapman, Lexington, (Ky.) May 4, 1822.

"The first and most important unoccupied station is Louisville in the state of Kentucky and on the banks of the Ohio. In this town and in the immediate vicinity, the number of Episcopal families is probably larger than in any other part of the western country, and I am personally apprized that a clergyman of our Church would be received with open arms. The Episcopalians constitute the wealthiest and most respectable part of the community, and I have not the smallest doubt that a missionary of popular talents would require no further aid from the society after the first outfit.

"St. Louis is the second place to which I would call their attention, and beg leave to state that the Rev. Mr. Wood assures me that there is no doubt of its ability and inclination to support a clergyman of our communion. * * * * * The number of Episcopal families is much less at St. Louis than at Louisville; but still they are also wealthy and highly respectable.

"Nashville, in Tennessee, is the third place to which I refer. The state is at present entirely destitute of the ministry of the Church, and as this is the principal town, having several Episcopalian families of great respectability, the society will readily perceive the propriety of locating a missionary there."

Extracts from a Letter of the Rev. S. Johnston, Cincinnati, (Ohio,) May 6, 1822.

"In the diocese of Ohio, we count something like forty parishes. Seven only are supplied with clergymen. In the northern part of the state a missionary might be exceedingly useful.

"A part of the state in which I live, called the Miami country, containing the following towns, viz. Dayton, Hamilton, Wilmington, Lebanon, Zion, Montgomery, has not one Episcopal clergyman, and they muster about fifty Episcopal families. They could afford about two hundred dollars among themselves, in part payment of the services of a zealous missionary. There is no quarter of the state where, with the Divine blessing, one could be more useful, or where his labours would be more justly valued. It is greatly to be wished that they may be soon supplied, as no little exertion is making to draw them off from our communion.

"In Kentucky, Cynthiana is vacant, and could support a clergyman without any assistance. Frankfort and Versailles could probably do the same.

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"Indiana contains a number of Episcopal families. In the towns of Corydon, Lawrenceburgh, Vincennes, &c. &c. a missionary might be exceedingly useful. Now is the favourable time.

"Illinois contains a number of the friends of our Church."

The Rev. Mr. Johnston confirms the statements of the other letters, with respect to the several important missionary localities mentioned therein.

The letters, from which the foregoing extracts have been made, together with several others, relating to the same subject, were referred by the Board of Directors at its late annual meeting to a committee, "to take the same into consideration, and make report thereon;" who accordingly reported as follows:—

"The committee is of opinion, that the state of Ohio deserves the immediate attention of the Board. They notice with great interest the fact, that in this state, in which a few years ago no Episcopalian congregations existed, there now is reported to be *forty*. The call for the aid of this Board consists in this, that but seven of these congregations are supplied; and the diocese ardently looks to us for aid, with assurances that the aid will be most gratefully received, and that it will prove most beneficial in its effect. They therefore offer the following resolution—

"*Resolved*, That the Executive Committee be authorized to apply a portion of the appropriation at their disposal to this object.

"The committee is of opinion, that there is a strong and prevailing concern throughout large sections of our Church in favour of a mission to Africa. They are of opinion, that if an appointment should be made for this object, with a small appropriation of money, funds could be collected in aid of the appropriation, that would in a short time warrant the departure of the missionaries.

"They therefore recommend the following resolution—

"*Resolved*, That Ephraim Bacon and wife, be and hereby are appointed as Catechists and Teachers, to serve upon the western coast of Africa. And that the Executive Committee be authorized to apply a portion of the appropriation at their disposal to this object.

"The committee has received information that there is a gentleman preparing and qualifying himself with a view to service as a missionary on the north-west coast of this continent. The committee recommends that the object be kept in view: that the individual be requested to furnish to the Executive Committee, the information of which he may be possessed.

"The committee recommends that the Right Rev. Bishop Chase be requested to furnish additional information in relation to the Wyandot Indian, who is in a course of education in his family; and to furnish information, generally, in relation to the Indians within the state of Ohio.

"*Resolved*, That such sums as the Executive Committee may think proper be applied to aid the sending forth the Wyandot above mentioned as a catechist and schoolmaster, &c. under the directions of the Right Rev. Bishop Chase.

"Whereas information has been received that the state of Delaware is greatly in want of the aid of this society—

"*Resolved*, That the Executive Committee is authorized to apply a portion of money at their disposal to that state."

A committee previously appointed, reported to the Board of Directors at its annual meeting, Plans, for an auxiliary society—for promoting a missionary spirit, and for an augmentation of the funds—and rules for the regulation of a missionary association; all which were referred by the Board to a committee for further consideration, who made thereon the following report, which was adopted.

"*Resolved*, That the following be recommended as the plan of the constitution for auxiliary societies.

Plan of a Constitution for an Auxiliary Society.

1. This institution shall be called the Episcopal Missionary Society of ———, auxiliary to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. Its officers shall consist of a president, vice-presidents, a secretary or secretaries, and a treasurer, together with a board of twelve managers.

2. Every person paying the sum of one dollar or more annually, shall be a member of this society—or ten dollars, or more at one time, shall constitute him a member for life. It shall be the privilege of any subscriber to designate at the time of subscribing to which of the objects, domestic or foreign, he wishes his money to be applied.

3. The board of managers shall meet as often as they find the business of the society requires. They shall have power to form their own by-laws, and generally to conduct the affairs of the society, provided they adopt no regulations contrary to the constitution of the parent society, or to the discipline of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.

4. It shall be the duty of the board of managers of this society, to transmit a full report of their proceedings to the corresponding secretary of the board of directors of the general so-

ciety, at least one month before each annual meeting of the said board.

Rules for the Regulation of a Missionary Association.

1. The association shall be called the Missionary Association of ———, intended to aid the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States (or the auxiliary Missionary Society of ———).

2. The managers of this association shall be selected from among the members of the congregation (or congregations) of ——— in the city (or parish, or parishes,) of ———, whose duty it shall be as soon after their appointment as may be convenient, to meet together and elect their officers.

3. The managers shall meet as often as they find the business of the society requires: they shall have power to make their own by-laws, and generally to conduct the affairs of this association, provided they adopt no regulations contrary to the constitution of the parent society or to the discipline of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.

4. It shall be the duty of the board of managers of this association, to transmit a full report of their proceedings to the directors of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States (or to the auxiliary society with which they are associated) at least once in every year.

(To be continued.)

B. ALLEN,
J. MONTGOMERY, } Committee.

Philadelphia, June, 1822.

The members of our Church in the different parts of the United States are respectfully requested to forward any intelligence which they may deem interesting in relation to the state of the Church in their neighbourhood, directed to the "CHURCH RECORD," Philadelphia.

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